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# Downey Finds Brother 'Well, Cheerful' in Peking Prison

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Reuters

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PEKING, July 16 — American William Downey visited his jailed brother, John, here today and said later the prisoner was "quite well and cheerful."

It was the second visit William Downey had made to his 28-year-old brother — given a life sentence for spying in 1954 — since his arrival here Monday on a 6-day visit.

William Downey, of New Britain, Conn., recalled that he was last here in January, 1958, when he accompanied his mother and the mothers of

two other Americans who are imprisoned in Communist China as spies. They are Richard G. Fecteau, 31, of Lynn, Mass., serving a 20-year sentence here, and Hugh F. Redmond Jr., 38, of Yonkers, N. Y., imprisoned on a life term in Shanghai.

William Downey told a Reuters correspondent he had given the Chinese Red Cross a request to "see someone in the government" about releasing the three men.

"As yet I haven't heard anything further," he said, "and I don't know whether I shall see anyone."

When the three mothers — Mrs. Mary Downey, Mrs. Ruth Redmond and Mrs. Philip Fecteau — were here last year they appealed to the government for the release of their sons. Premier Chou En-lai replied that the three men had "violated Chinese law and must be dealt with accordingly."

John Downey and Fecteau, both civilian employees of the American Army, were passengers on a plane forced down in Communist territory in 1952. Redmond, a Shanghai businessman, was arrested in 1951 and sentenced in 1954.